IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yasuhiro SAKAI et al.

Serial No.:

Filed:

For:

Method of Staining, and Detecting and Counting

Bacteria, and a Diluent for Bacterial Stain

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Examiner: F. C. Prats Group Art: 1651

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.